

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant	Fang Lei
Serial No. 10/	Filing Date: January 26, 2004
Title of Application:	Image Transmission System From Three Rod Lenses For Rigid Endoscopes

Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment  
 Commissioner for Patents  
 Post Office Box 1450  
 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Preliminary Amendment

Applicant herewith presents its amendment and remarks. Please amend the claims as detailed below.

In the Claims

1. (Currently Amended) Image transmission system for rigid endoscopes and similar viewing tubes with a center rod lens (10') and two outer rod lenses (20, 30; 20", 30"; 20xx, 30xx; 20"xx, 30"xx), which are symmetrical to one another with respect to a center plane (100) of the image transmission system that is perpendicular to the optical axis, wherein

all lens elements (11', 12', 13', 21, 31; 32'; 23xx, 21'xx, 31'xx, 33xx; 21", 22", 31", 32") consist in each case of optically homogeneous material,

all optically active surfaces (1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8) are spherical,

the center rod lens (10') consists of a rod lens main element (11') and lens elements (12', 13') cemented to it, resulting in a biconvex connecting rod lens (10'), and

the outer rod lenses (20, 30; 20", 30"; 20xx, 30xx; 20"xx, 30"xx) are biconvex, wherein

the rod lenses (10'; 20, 30; 20", 30"; 20xx, 30xx; 20"xx, 30"xx) are vertex-to-vertex adjacent to one another and

the center rod lens (10') is essentially of the same length as, or longer than, the outer rod lenses (20, 30; 20", 30"; 20xx, 30xx; 20"xx, 30"xx).